

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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***For Immediate Release***

***NOVEMBER 3, 2004***

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **PAUL EDWARD PODHORN, JR.**, age 56, of Norfolk, Virginia, was convicted on October 29, 2004, of selling stolen firearms, making false statements, and willfully failing to create and maintain firearms records. **PODHORN** was a federally licensed firearms manufacturer. The conviction occurred in United States District Court in East St. Louis, following a jury trial that started on October 18, 2004.

Sentencing has been scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on February 11, 2005. At that time, **PODHORN** faces a sentence of up to five years in prison on each of the false statements and records charges and up to 10 years in prison on each of the stolen firearms charges. All federal sentences are served without possibility of parole.

**PODHORN** was first indicted on July 8, 2003. The Second Superseding Indictment charged 2 counts of making false statements to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, 2 counts of knowingly selling stolen firearms, and 21 counts of willful failure to keep records indicating the whereabouts of firearms sold by the defendant. The jury found that more than 200 firearms were involved in the violations.

Evidence supporting this conviction was obtained in an investigation conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark R. Niemeyer.